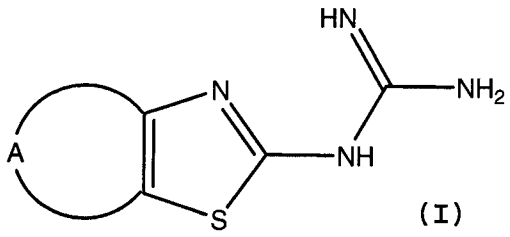
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.–10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) A compound of formula I



(I)

wherein A is a three to six carbon atom chain, wherein

(i) A does not comprise double bonds; and

(ii) at least one of the carbon atoms of A is substituted by one or more:

- methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, isobutyl, *sec*-butyl, *tert*-butyl, 1,1-dimethylpropyl, allyl or cyclohex-1-enyl groups; or
- phenyl, o-tolyl, m-tolyl, p-tolyl, 2-ethylphenyl, 3-fluorophenyl, 4-fluorophenyl, 4-chlorophenyl, 4-cyanophenyl, 4-benzyloxyphenyl, 3-methoxyphenyl, 4-methoxyphenyl, 3,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl or bis-3,5-trifluoromethylphenyl groups; or
- thiophene-2-yl or benzyl groups; or
- cyano or cyanoethyl groups; or
- pentamethylene groups linked at each end to a single carbon atom;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

12. (Previously Presented) The compound according to claim 11, wherein one carbon atom of A is substituted by a phenyl group and a cyano group.

13. (Previously presented) The compound according to claim 11, wherein the compound is

N-(5-ethyl-5-methyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl)-guanidine or its formate;

N-(4-*tert*-butyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl)-guanidine;

N-(6-isopropyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl)-guanidine;

N-(5-butyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-4*H*-cycloheptathiazol-2-yl)-guanidine;

N-(4-ethyl-4-methyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl)-guanidine;

N-[6-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl]-guanidine or its formate;

N-(5-butyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl)-guanidine;

N-(6-phenyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl)-guanidine;

N-(6-propyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl)-guanidine;

N-(4-cyclohex-1-enyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl)-guanidine or its formate;

N-(4-*sec*-butyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl)-guanidine or its formate; or

N-(4-isobutyl-4-methyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl)-guanidine.

14. (Previously presented) The compound according to claim 11, wherein the compound is

N-(6-*tert*-butyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl)-guanidine;

N-[6-(1,1-dimethyl-propyl)-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl]-guanidine;

N-[6-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl]-guanidine or its formate;

N-(6-thiophene-2-yl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl)-guanidine or its formate;

N-[6-(4-fluorophenyl)-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl]-guanidine or its hydrobromide;

N-(4-allyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl)-guanidine or its formate;

N-[6-(3-fluorophenyl)-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl]-guanidine or its formate;

N-(6-cyano-6-phenyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl)-guanidine or its hydrobromide;

N-(4-phenyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl)-guanidine or its formate; or

N-(6,6-diphenyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl)-guanidine or its formate.

15. (Previously Presented) The compound according to claim 11, wherein the compound is

N-[6-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl]-guanidine or its hydrobromide;

N-(5-phenyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-4*H*-cycloheptathiazol-2-yl)-guanidine or its hydrobromide;

N-(6-benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl)-guanidine or its formate;

N-[6-(4-cyanophenyl)-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl]-guanidine or its formate;

N-(4-benzyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl)-guanidine or its formate;

N-(5-methyl-5-phenyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl)-guanidine or its formate;

N-[6-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethylphenyl)-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl]-guanidine or its formate;

N-(6-*o*-tolyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl)-guanidine or its formate;

N-(6-*m*-tolyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl)-guanidine or its formate;

N-[6-(2-ethyl-phenyl)-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl]-guanidine or its formate;

N-[6-(4-chlorophenyl)-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl]-guanidine or its formate;

N-[6-(4-benzyloxy-phenyl)-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl]-guanidine or its hydrobromide;

N-(6-phenyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl-4-spiro-cyclohexane)-guanidine or its hydrobromide; or

N-(6-*p*-tolyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl)-guanidine or its formate.

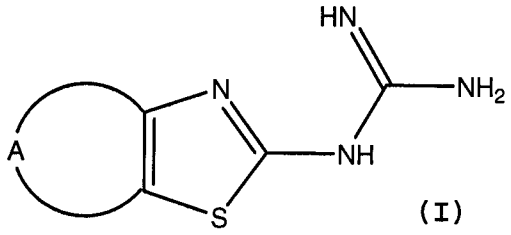
16. (Previously Presented) The compound according to claim 11, wherein the compound is *N*-[4-(2-cyano-ethyl)-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl]-guanidine or its formate.

17.–21. (Cancelled)

22. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising the compound of claim 11.

23. (Previously Presented) A medicinal product, comprising the compound of claim 11 and an inert carrier.

24. (Previously presented) A compound of formula I



(I)

wherein A is a three to six carbon atom chain which may be interrupted by oxygen and together with the thiazole ring can form a 5,6-dihydro-4H-cyclopentathiazole, 4,5,6,7-tetrahydrobenzothiazole, 5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-4H-cycloheptathiazole, or 6,7-dihydro-4H-pyrano[4,3-d]thiazole skeleton, wherein at least one of the carbon atoms of A is substituted by one or more:

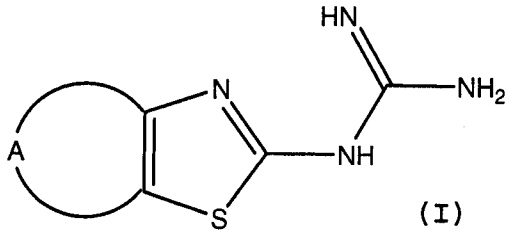
- methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, isobutyl, *sec*-butyl, *tert*-butyl, 1,1-dimethylpropyl, allyl or cyclohex-1-enyl groups; or
- phenyl, o-tolyl, m-tolyl, p-tolyl, 2-ethylphenyl, 3-fluorophenyl, 4-fluorophenyl, 4-chlorophenyl, 4-cyanophenyl, 4-benzyloxyphenyl, 3-methoxyphenyl, 4-methoxyphenyl, 3,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl or bis-3,5-trifluoromethylphenyl groups; or
- thiophene-2-yl or benzyl groups; or
- cyano or cyanoethyl groups; or
- pentamethylene groups linked at each end to a single carbon atom;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

25. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising the compound of claim 24.

26. (Previously Presented) A medicinal product, comprising the compound of claim 24 and an inert carrier.

27. (Previously Presented) A compound of formula I



(I)

wherein A is a three to six carbon atom chain, wherein

(i) A does not comprise double bonds; and

(ii) at least one of the carbon atoms of A is substituted by one or more methyl groups;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

28. (Previously Presented) The compound according to claim 27, wherein the compound is

N-(5,5-dimethyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl)-guanidine or its formate;

N-(6,6-dimethyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl)-guanidine;

N-(5-methyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl)-guanidine; or

N-(4-methyl-4-propyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl)-guanidine.

29. (Previously Presented) The compound according to claim 27, wherein the compound is

N-(7-methyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl)-guanidine or its formate;

N-(4,4-dimethyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl)-guanidine;

N-(4-methyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl)-guanidine or its formate; or

N-(6-methyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-benzothiazole-2-yl)-guanidine.

30. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising the compound of claim 27.

31. (Previously Presented) A medicinal product, comprising the compound of claim 27 and an inert carrier.

32. (Currently Amended) The compound according to claim 11, wherein at least one of the carbon atoms of A is substituted by one or more:

- ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, isobutyl, *sec*-butyl, *tert*-butyl, 1,1-dimethylpropyl, allyl or cyclohex-1-enyl groups; or

- phenyl, o-tolyl, m-tolyl, p-tolyl, 2-ethylphenyl, 3-fluorophenyl, 4-fluorophenyl, 4-chlorophenyl, 4-cyanophenyl, 4-benzyloxyphenyl, 3-methoxyphenyl, 4-methoxyphenyl, 3,4-dimethoxyphenyl, 3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl or bis-3,5-trifluoromethylphenyl groups; or

- thiophene-2-yl or benzyl groups; or

- cyano or cyanoethyl groups; or

- pentamethylene groups linked at each end to a single carbon atom;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

33. (Previously Presented) The compound according to claim 11, wherein one carbon atom of A is substituted by two phenyl groups.